

CITY OF WASHINGTON.

MONDAY NIGHT, MARCH 13, 1848.

Mr. C. W. JAMES, of Cincinnati, Ohio, is our general travelling agent for the Western States, assisted by James R. Smith, J. T. Dent, T. G. Smith, Frederick J. Hayes, John W. Armstrong, James Taylor, E. M. Stevenson, and W. Ramsey.

Mr. ISRAEL E. JAMES, 182 South Tenth street, Philadelphia, is our general travelling agent, assisted by James R. Smith, William H. Weld, O. H. P. Stern, John B. Weld, T. S. Waterman, C. S. James, John Collins, James Deering, Isaac D. Guyer, and C. Martin.

Mr. HENRY M. LEWIS, of Montgomery, Alabama, is our general travelling agent for Alabama and Tennessee.

Congressional.

The Senate did not sit to-day.

In the House, Mr. Sylvester introduced a resolution requiring, within ten days, a report from the Committee on Rules, touching the propriety of making the rules more rigorous in case of a breach of privilege; which lies over.

A resolution, by Mr. Slingerland, was agreed to, requiring a bill to be reported securing pre-emption right to settlers at a price not to exceed fifty cents an acre, and preventing unwarrantable speculation in pre-emption rights.

Mr. Tuck has a resolution against selling slave property on any precept in favor of the United States; and Mr. J. R. Ingersoll has a resolution of inquiry into the expediency of increasing the duties on imports; which severally lie over, under notices of intention to debate.

Mr. Cummins has a resolution declarative of the right and duty of the Executive to withhold information from Congress, the publication of which might prejudice the public interest; which also lies over, under a notice of intention to debate.

A resolution was agreed to, looking to the compensation of volunteer mounted troops for the loss of horses.

A resolution by Mr. W. T. Lawrence was adopted, proposing a report on the principle that by the law of nations mere trading vessels should not be subject to capture or detention by the enemy.

A proposition by Mr. T. B. King to remove the members' desks, and erect a tribune in front of the Clerk's desk, was laid on the table—yeas 99, nays 65.

A proposition by Mr. Jacob Thompson for an amendment of the constitution, so as to abolish the life-tenure of the judges, and provide for their appointment for a term of years, was laid on the table—yeas 83, nays 65.

A joint resolution to adjourn the session on the 20th of June was introduced by Mr. Johnson of Arkansas.

This being resolution day, the States were called for resolutions, and many were offered and agreed to; which cannot be described in a brief synopsis.

State resolutions from Pennsylvania and New Jersey, in favor of Mr. Whitney's project of a railroad from Lake Michigan to the Pacific ocean, were presented and referred.

On the business on the Speaker's table, the President's veto of the river and harbor appropriation bill was referred to the Committee on Commerce, and ordered to be printed. The message of the President, of the 13th of January, declining to communicate the Sillid instructions to the House of Representatives, came up next for consideration, in the order of business on the Speaker's table. Mr. Tompkins (who has the floor on this subject) being too unwell to proceed, Mr. Cingman moved to make the matter the special order for Thursday; pending which motion the House adjourned.

Supreme Court of the United States.

THURSDAY, March 9, 1848.

No. 36. Chas. McKicker vs. Amos Webb & Co. Error to the circuit court of the United States for Louisiana.

Mr. Justice Daniel delivered the opinion of the court, affirming the judgment of the circuit court in this cause, with costs.

No. 37. The Bank of Metropolis vs. The New England Bank. Error to the circuit court of the United States for Washington, D. C.

Mr. Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of the court, reversing the judgment of the circuit court, with costs, and remanding the cause, with directions to award a *venue facias de novo*.

No. 38. Nelson F. Shelton vs. Clayton Tiffin and L. P. Perry. Appeal from the circuit court of the United States for Louisiana.

Mr. Justice McLean delivered the opinion of the court, reversing the decree of the circuit court, and remanding the cause, with directions to be proceeded with in conformity to the opinion of this court.

No. 40. Suml. T. Pulliam et al. vs. Edmund Christian, assignee. Appeal from the circuit court of the United States for Virginia.

Mr. Justice McLean delivered the opinion of the court, dismissing this appeal for the want of jurisdiction.

No. 43. The United States, plaintiffs in error, vs. Andrew Holgate, Jr., et al. The argument of this cause was concluded by Mr. Attorney General for the plaintiffs in error.

Adjourned till Saturday, 11 o'clock.

SATURDAY, March 11, 1848.

William S. Brown, esq., of Michigan, and Edmund Terry, esq., of New York, were admitted attorneys and counsellors of this court.

No. 22. John D. Bush vs. Jacob Marshall et al. Appeal from the Supreme Court of Iowa. Mr. Justice Grier delivered the opinion of this court, affirming the decree of said supreme court in this cause, with costs.

No. 28. Richard Bein and Mary Bein vs. Mary Heath. Appeal from the circuit court of the United States for Louisiana. Mr. Justice McLean delivered the opinion of the court, affirming the decree of the circuit court in this cause, with costs.

No. 43. The United States, vs. Andrew Holgate, Jr., et al. Error to the circuit court of the United States for Louisiana. Mr. Justice McLean delivered the opinion of the court, reversing the judgment of the circuit court, and remanding the cause with directions to award a *venue facias de novo*.

144. Wm. Houston et al., vs. City Bank of New Orleans. Appeal from the Supreme Court of Louisiana. Mr. Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of the court, reversing the decree of said supreme court, and remanding the cause with directions to be proceeded with in conformity to the opinion of this court.

No. 214. Mary Ann Van Ness, vs. Cornelius P. Van Ness. Appeal from the circuit court of the United States for Washington, D. C. On motion of Mr. Cox, this appeal was docketed, and dismissed with costs.

No. 215. Wm. H. Van Buren, vs. Wm. H. Digges, use, &c. Error from the circuit court of the United States for Washington, D. C. On motion of Mr. Bradley, this writ of error was docketed, and dismissed with costs.

No. 195. Peter G. Hogg et al., vs. John B. Emerson. Error to the circuit court of the United States for New York. Mr. Justice Woodbury delivered the opinion of the court, affirming the points brought up by the record; but to bring up other points alleged to have been ruled below, judgment is suspended.

No. 11. New Jersey Steam Navigation Company, vs. Merchants' Bank of Boston. Appeal from the circuit court of the United States for Rhode Island. In this case Mr. Chief Justice Taney and Justices McLean, Wayne, and Nelson, in an opinion delivered by the latter, affirmed the judgment below, in admiralty, on the contract for full damages.

Justices Catron and Woodbury, in opinions delivered by each, concurred in the judgment, on the ground of a tort committed by the respondents.

Justices Daniel and Grier dissented from both.

The court adjourned (conditionally) to the 1st Monday of May next.

Mr. Goggin says that Mexico has been greatly benefited by Santa Anna's return, through President Polk's permission. General Bustamante, ex-President of Mexico, on the other hand, asserts that the army of that republic has been "disgraced and almost annihilated, perhaps through want of skill in its chief." Now which of these two enemies of Mr. Polk's administration is right? The one in Mexico most assuredly, for he has many facts to sustain his assertion, while the member from Virginia has none to support his.—*Richmond Examiner*.

The Campaign of 1848.

The struggle in the coming election is destined to be an arduous—perhaps decisive one. The whigs are determined to prostrate the republican party. But our energy is as superior to theirs, as our cause is better. We dread no champion whom they may select as their leader. We understand the weapons, the arts, the humbugs with which they fought in 1840 and 1844—from the log cabin down to the black bread of Germany. We see already the signs of their intended manoeuvres. Some of them are selecting a candidate whom they would palm off upon us as a "no-party man," but we defy the masked battery behind which they would ensconce themselves. We see, also, their efforts to get clear of all the old issues which constitute the principles of their party. Already they are telling us that the bank is obsolete; that the tariff must be raised to pay the expenses of the war; that the independent treasury is stripped of some of its objectionable features, (see the Boston Courier, the Baltimore American, &c. &c.) that these questions cannot enter into the campaign—as if the same devices were not insidiously employed in the struggle of 1840. These tricks must be unmasked. The old issues must again be brought out; for who does not believe that if they had the power, they would attempt to revive the bank, and the protective tariff; and they already avoid the connection between this system and that of internal improvements. (See Mr. Hampton's speech.) This contest must be stripped of all these humbugs. Moreover, we not only defy their attempts to turn the war against us, but we shall turn it against them; and never were we more willing to meet them upon any issue that may be made before the tribunal of public opinion.

The people were never animated by a better spirit. They see the services which the republican party have done—they have confidence in the administration, because its measures have carried out the principles of the democracy. With these principles inscribed upon our flag, we march on to victory, whoever be our standard-bearer. Let the miserable complaints and vindictive passions of a few disaffected politicians vent themselves in idle murmurs and ridiculous lamentations. The indignant voice of a free people will rebuke the opposition; and the great body of our party will march on conquering and to conquer. The anxious advice of every intelligent democrat is, to go for principle, and not for men—to cherish harmony and union in our ranks—to enter the convention of the 4th Monday in May, rallying upon the great and common principles of our party—and to put down every excess, every vindictive aspiration, every unnecessary cause of disagreement which is calculated to divide us. Let us do this, and we are safe—safe from open enemies or secret hesitating friends—safe from the decided whigs, or from vindictive malcontents.

The following article from the "Boston Post" contains many reasonable suggestions, that we cannot forbear incorporating them with our own remarks:

THE CONTEST OF 1848.—However strong may be our confidence in the continued ascendancy of the democratic cause, it may perhaps be idle at present to put forth any predictions of our own, concerning the final result of the approaching struggle. Even to speculate upon the character which the canvass may yet assume may only serve to illustrate hereafter our own conceit and folly. But, although the ground is in the hands of the President, at this moment, the occurrences of the campaign, or, for all that its event, still we think that the great elements which are to enter principally into the contest, and probably decide it, are becoming apparent to us all.

Whether there shall be war or peace will not, we believe, materially change the position of the democracy, or the position of the whigs. The President, we think, will be an unwavering adherent to well-understood and long established principles, and to that comprehensive system of public measures with which the democratic party of the country has now become fully and proudly identified. There will be no surrender on our part of any great principle—no retreat from a single position we have already assumed. The grounds we have taken before, we shall maintain now, whatever new and equally important issues a national necessity may force upon us. The opposition, whether there be war or peace with Mexico, will continue its warfare upon the administration and its entire public policy. It matters but little, truly, what its immediate objects may be; whether to embarrass the President in the successful prosecution of the war, or defeat him in the establishment of an honorable peace. The same spirit of party which has pronounced the war "unnecessary and unconstitutional," in the next breath will cavil at the conditions of any peace.

From the moment when it was determined by the leadership of the whig party, that their last resort was to themselves of the political power of the country, to convert the entire question of the war into political capital of the war, to sacrifice country, violate consistency, and mock at the name of patriotism in the execution of their "party schemes," no public servant in the cabinet, or in the field, however brave and pure and patriotic—no supposed aspirant to the democratic ranks, however distinguished—no, not even the people themselves, when assembled in the name of democracy, they have justified their country, and sustained a faithful administration—have escaped abuse, injustice, and obloquy at the hands of the opposition, poured out with a cold-blooded ferocity, without a parallel in political history.

We see no indications that this species of party warfare will be abandoned in the coming campaign. It is, in fact, the contest of 1848 will be a stormy and eventful one. If peace ensues, and after the rapid succession of victories which have crowned our arms upon so many battle-fields, the "grim-visaged war" has smoothed his wrinkled front, and the true and gallant soldier who has, at the same time, achieved renown for itself, and glory for the nation, will be returned to the land, and the great political conflict at hand, then they will find that, after having vanquished all their national enemies abroad, they must "fight their battles over" with ungenerous and unpatriotic partisans at home. There will be some, to whom their scars of battle will be but so many brands of shame. They will be old that, though they have triumphed upon every field, yet they deserved nothing better than defeat, and should have been "welcomed with bloody hands and hospitable caves." The name of peace, morality, religion, will be invoked against them. We are prepared for all this—nay, we expect it. But unless the American people shall be transformed into a race of bigots and slaves, and the love of justice, honor, liberty, die out among us, we have no dread of the ascendancy of such a cause.

But we do not, for a moment, persuade our democratic friends that we can achieve an easy triumph. We know too well how our adversaries will "swoop to conquer" to the farthest depths of corruption and deceit. They will select their leaders with extreme cunning and precaution; they will put forth their principles with a "forked tongue," and they will endeavor to divide rank, and divide the cause, and make madmen of them all. With them, there will be no luck of union—a union of

"Tories turned whigs, and whigs turned Tories."

We appeal to the democracy of the whole country to prepare themselves wisely and fully for the conflict. Let us become united. Extreme opinions must be abandoned. There must be compromise and sacrifice upon the part of all. The public welfare demands it. The fate of these great measures which have been established under President Polk, no less than our success in war and our glory in peace, is involved in this contest. If we fail, it will be a verdict against the democratic system, and it will be pulled down. We shall go backward a generation in our national policy. National interests will be sacrificed, the national cause will be betrayed. If we triumph, our progress towards national greatness will continue uninterrupted. One after one, in the wilds of California and Oregon, taking the beautiful names of their own peaceful rivers, the "younger commonwealths" will rise to join our mighty Union, each with its wealth of loyal hearts, and its kindred interests of commerce and trade; and each, by sure and natural influences, lengthening and strengthening

the elastic chain That binds in everlasting peace State after State—a mighty train.

The press is discussing with some eagerness the correspondence between Generals Scott and Worth, and the course of the administration towards both. The opposition is attacking the administration for sending General Scott to a court of inquiry, and not Gen. Worth at the same time, or even previously. The democratic press is defending the Secretary of War, without having all the facts or arguments before it. Would it not be as well for all to wait until the correspondence in relation to these points shall have been submitted to Congress and the country?

Major General Quitman in his native State.—The honors so thickly showered upon this brave and chivalrous Mississippian in the State of New York, cannot but be most grateful to the people of the State of his adoption—a State which received him a lone youth, nursed, cherished, and rewarded his youthful ardor for action—gave him a seat in her public councils, and for twenty-five or thirty years had honored him with high military stations in the volunteer and militia forces of Mississippi.—*Natchez Free Trader*.

We can infer the General's meaning. He intends to say that he doubts his possession of the qualifications for the presidency; but his pen modestly tells the world that he doubts his want of them.—*Fredericksburg Recorder*.

Gen. Taylor's letter to Mr. Ingersoll is a medley of words inaptly strung together, and proves conclusively that his former productions were written by a different hand, or that this is a forgery. We hope every voter in the land will give it a careful perusal, and observe the numerous contradictions and blunders it contains. Here is a specimen:

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More Newspapers.

Papers are rising all over the country. No city more abounds with them, and none more able, than New Orleans. This morning's southern mail brings us two new journals just established in New Orleans: one is "The Republic," edited by Peter K. Wagner, "the veteran of the Louisiana press, (as the Delta calls him), and one of the most vigorous political writers of the day." He is decidedly one of the ablest and one of the most distinguished democratic editors in this country. The title of his paper is the true exponent of its politics. He succeeds both in argument and in satire; discusses grave subjects with great ability, and chastises the opposition with a scorpion lash. The leader of his first number shows at once the vigor of his pen. It is devoted to a theme which has been fruitful of dissension, and is likely to harass the whigs until the end of the chapter—Mr. Clay, Gen. Taylor! The gist of the present article, however, relates more to the general than the civilian. Gen. Taylor has more than once confessed that he was "no politician," and, with commendable modesty, admits his inexperience in politics, and declares, in one of his letters, that he has had no time, amid the forty years of a camp, to study the great questions of the day, or to form any definitive opinion upon any of them. We require no other evidence of the truth of this modest declaration, than one of the opinions he has expressed in his letter to Mr. Joseph R. Ingersoll.

General Taylor has repeatedly declared (says the New Orleans Republic) that he would not consent to be the candidate of any clique or party; but he says he preferred Mr. Clay to all others at the late election, and even at this time would rather see that gentleman in the presidential chair than any other person, even himself. Now, let us mark the result of these professions of the General, and these operations of his brother whigs. He admits that he is a whig, but he declares that he is not a politician, and that the principles of the whigs are more consistent than those of the democracy to the Jeffersonian doctrine. The General forgets, perhaps, that Mr. Jefferson was most decidedly of opinion that Congress had no constitutional right to charter a national bank, or to construct works of local utility in the body of a State. In regard to these most important powers, Mr. Jefferson's opinion was diametrically opposed to that of the whigs and Mr. Clay.

"It comes to this at last, then: if General Taylor is a whig, he is willing that Congress shall create a national bank; if he is a disciple of the Jefferson school, he must entertain the belief that Congress has no power to create such an institution." (See Randolph's edition of Jefferson's Works.)

"If the General is a whig, he is favorable to the doctrine of internal improvements by the general government. If he is a Jeffersonian, he must abhor such doctrine, because Mr. Jefferson regarded it not only as unconstitutional, but as inevitably tending to subvert the sovereignty of the States, and to render the government of the confederacy one consolidated policy—the powers of the States being nullified and monopolized by the federal government."

"If the General is a whig, he must be in favor of high protective tariffs; if a Jeffersonian, he must be opposed to them."

"In a few words, we cannot conceive how Gen. Taylor, or any other man, can be at once a whig, in the modern sense of the word, and a disciple of Jefferson. The doctrines of the one are as opposite as day and night to those of the other."

"As the General is so anxious that Mr. Clay should be elected Chief Magistrate of our country, we should be glad to see him reconcile this preference with his own opinions of the manner in which the war with Mexico was commenced, and the conditions on which he thinks it ought to be terminated. Mr. Clay has declared that the crossing of the Nueces, by the American forces, was a wanton aggression upon Mexican rights, and that without this march hostilities would not have taken place. But Gen. Taylor himself recommended this march across the Nueces, and solicited the War Department for permission to undertake it."

"Mr. Clay has declared the most determined opposition to the permanent occupation of any portion of Mexican territory by the forces of the United States. Gen. Taylor has announced his opinion that the boundary between the two countries, to be settled and fixed by treaty, should be the Sierra Madre, which would give to the United States a vast extent of Mexican territory west of the Rio Grande, including the port of Tampico, and the rich Riohans. The value of Tampico as a depot for exports and imports."

In a word, a "Jeffersonian whig" is one of those monsters whom the world has rarely imagined, and in reality never seen. Mr. Webster was the first to stard the world with his assumption of the character. We never can forget the astonishment which he produced, when, "under an October sun," he pronounced, from the portico of the Capitol at Richmond, in 1840, that he was a whig of the Jeffersonian stamp! The avowal rendered no service to Mr. Webster; and General Taylor will scarcely gain much popularity by imitating his example.

The other new paper which we have before us is the "Daily Crescent," published at New Orleans by Hayes & McClure—a very neat and well filled sheet, which professes to be "divested of all party politics," and to "discuss the great questions of State and national policy with impartiality and freedom." The Crescent will find it very difficult, "in the spirit of the age," to escape from the Maelstrom of party politics; and if we mistake not the signs of the times, its first number leans already to the side of the opposition.

WASHINGTON, March 11, 1848.

To the Editor of the Union: In your paper of Friday, after giving the names of the candidates for admission into the navy as assistant engineers, who were examined and passed by the late Naval Medical Board, which was convened in Philadelphia, you state that the first three have been confirmed by the Senate. The inference from which might be, that the names of the whole eight had been submitted to the Senate for confirmation, and that the Senate had declined to confirm any but the three first named. Please to say whether or not this inference would be correct.

We have sought information of the department, and have to reply to our correspondent, that we understand the three first named gentlemen on the list have been commissioned to fill vacancies which had occurred, and the remaining five will be nominated as the exigencies of the service shall require.

Gen. Quitman has left Washington to-day for the west. He leaves the kindest impressions behind him. He is not only a general, but a civilian—and of a ripe sort, too, and we shall be surprised if his public services terminate with the war.

A friend sends us an extract from the "North American" of 14th January, published in the city of Mexico. Among other things, it says, "We wait in much anxiety the action of the American Congress. That that body will sustain the honor of the nation, we know; yet we long to see its ultimatum."

Let any one compare the acts of Congress with the anticipations in Mexico, and then judge. It is because there is such a disparity between them, that we fear the deluded Mexicans may blunder in their ultimate course.

Political Curiosity.—Gen. Taylor's letter to Mr. Ingersoll is a medley of words inaptly strung together, and proves conclusively that his former productions were written by a different hand, or that this is a forgery. We hope every voter in the land will give it a careful perusal, and observe the numerous contradictions and blunders it contains. Here is a specimen:

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The Post Office.

As the Union complained some days ago of the failure of money which had been sent to the office, and ascribed it in part to the post offices, it is nothing but correct that we should comply with the request to lay before our readers the following communication. We feel the less scruple in making it public, because a similar account, though inaccurate in some of its details, has already appeared in the "Baltimore Sun" of Saturday last. Our mail letters had been frequently purloined from our locked leather bag, by a young but very ingenious messenger, who had applied a process of his own to extract our letters from it. But it will give the "Baltimore Sun" some pleasure to bet that we have recovered the money by the assistance of the honest father of the boy:

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 10, 1848.

SIR: A case of reported mail depredation between Rocky Mount, N. C., and Washington, D. C., having been committed to me for investigation, I have to report the facts as follows: It appears that, on the 3d inst., a letter was mailed at the first named office, addressed to Messrs. Ritchie & Hunt, containing in bank notes, \$150, and a check for \$125, together with sundry accounts. This letter came into the possession of Messrs. Ritchie & Hunt on Tuesday, the 7th inst., but enclosed only the check and accounts. The envelope which carried the letter was addressed to "Thomas Ritchie, esq., in a hand which I at once recognized. This circumstance induced the belief that the letter had been rifled by some one in Mr. Ritchie's employ, having access to his papers, (and probably by the messenger who received the letter at the post office,) using this old envelope to avoid detection. Upon a further investigation, I have ascertained that the suspicion was well founded. The servant boy of Mr. Ritchie has been implicated in this depredation, and has been discharged, no longer being as yet been procured upon which to hang a prosecution, the conviction, I believe, is clear in the minds of the gentlemen sustaining the loss, that it occurred in the manner stated.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. B. B. HALE, Special Agent.

Hon. C. JOHNSON.

Some doubts have been expressed about the ratification of the treaty. The course of the opposition on the ten regiment and the loan bills has contributed to produce them. Had those bills been passed with necessary promptness, and with the degree of unanimity, there could scarcely be a doubt of the success of the treaty. But so long as there is a doubt expressed upon the subject, ought we to disarm, or ought we to relax at all in our exertions?

Mr. Crittenden advised, in one of his first speeches upon the war, that we should carry the olive-branch in one hand and the sword in the other. We did not exactly approve of his policy at that time; for it was certain that we had much fighting to do; and that the tender of the olive-branch would only deceive that proud and vain-boasting nation. But now that we are about to listen to her overtures, we ought not too hastily to sheathe the sword. Nothing has made so deep an impression upon her as the President's message and Gen. Scott's order. Nothing has contributed more to produce her proposition for a treaty. Nothing is so well calculated to change her purpose as the tone of the opposition, as it is now reported in Mexico. Nothing would tend more to counteract its effects than the passage of the ten regiment bill. And should the treaty fail, and the war should have to be prosecuted with greater vigor, the means should be at hand, and more men and more money promptly prepared for the occasion. It is shrewdly suspected that this morning's "Baltimore Clipper" is extravagant in numbering the (effective) troops in Mexico at about 40,000 men.

Our correspondent in Alabama must excuse us from publishing his nomination of a Vice President. If we should open the sluices at this time, we should be flooded with similar articles. The Union "could not contain all the books that would be written" before the fourth Monday in May. Besides, for the most obvious reasons, we cannot take any part in the nomination of the candidates. We leave that office to the democracy themselves, and to their delegates in general convention assembled. When that nomination shall be made, then we shall change our position. We shall abandon the system of "masterly inactivity," and we pledge ourselves that there is not a man in the nation who will surpass us in activity and enthusiasm.

A report has been rife through our streets for several days, that General Scott has refused to obey the Secretary's order, and has arrested the members of the court of inquiry. Independently of its extravagant character, it is inconsistent with our advice at the latest dates; for two of the members (General Towner and Col. Belknap) had not even arrived at Vera Cruz.

A NEW INNOVATION TO YANKEE INGENUITY AND ENTERPRISE.—Among the intelligence brought by the last steamer, is the following account of a new production which had excited much interest:

"The owner of some spinning mills at Berlin has lately brought into the market a new species of flaxen thread, which is the following account of a new production which had excited much interest:

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